

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 06754 081651Z
ACTION IO-13

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ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 OIC-02 SP-02 L-03
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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UNESCO, PORG, AORG
SUBJECT: UNESCO: INFORMATION GROUP MEETING

1. INFORMATION GROUP (IG) MET ON MARCH 7 FOR FIRST TIME SINCE GENERAL CONFERENCE.
2. DISCUSSION CONCERNING STRUCTURE OF IG DOMINATED SESSION. TOPIC AROSE WHEN MEETING CHAIRMAN, AMBASSADOR CARDUCCI OF ITALY, SUGGESTED THAT GROUP BE PLACED ON MORE FORMAL FOOTING BY ASSIGNING CHAIRMEN, IN ADVANCE, FOR TWO MONTH PERIODS, WITH AT LEAST ONE MEETING PER MONTH.
3. CARDUCCI HAD NOT INTENDED SUGGESTION BE TAKEN AS ATTEMPT TO CHANGE IG'S CHARACTER. MOST MEMBERS WHO SPOKE TO HIS SUGGESTION, HOWEVER, WISHED TO RE-EMPHASIZE THAT PRIMARY PURPOSE OF GROUP SHOULD BE TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION. WHILE SPECIAL CONDITIONS SUCH AS GENERAL CONFERENCE MIGHT DICTATE TRYING TO ARRIVE AT GROUP CONSENSUS ON SOME ITEMS (I.E. DRAFT DECLARATION ON MASS MEDIA), STRUCTURING GENERALLY SHOULD FOCUS ON POOLING INFORMATION.

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4. IT WAS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT FRENCH PERMREP, AMBASSADOR VALERY, WHO, FOLLOWING FRENCH GOVERNMENT POLICY WILL NOT SERVE AS IG CHAIRMAN, WAS FIRST TO RESPOND TO CARDUCCI SUGGESTION. IN RATHER CAUTIONARY TONES HE POINTED OUT THAT FRENCH VIEWED THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO GROUP ONLY AS PROVIDING POSSIBILITY FOR

INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS OR LIAISON. PORTUGUESE PERM REP, AMBASSADOR PINTASILGO, FOLLOWED FRENCH AMBASSADOR'S REMARKS INDICATING THAT SHE WAS PRESENT AT IG GIVEN UNDERSTANDING THAT IG IS TRULY AN INFORMATION GROUP, AND NOT A BLOC OR A CAUCUS. PARTICULARLY ON HER MIND, IT SEEMED, WAS "OUTSIDERS" VIEW OF IG. SHE NOTED SOME CONCERN WITHIN THE SECRETARIAT, FOR EXAMPLE, ABOUT WHAT SECRETARIAT'S RELATIONSHIP SHOULD BE OR IS TO THE IG.

5. CONCLUSION OF DISCUSSION WAS REAFFIRMATION THAT IG IS AN INFORMAL, FLEXIBLE GROUP WHICH MEETS TOGETHER TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION, THAT IT HAS NO FORMAL STATUTORY STRUCTURE, AND NO DEFINED STATUS VIS A VIS UNESCO SECRETARIAT. AT SAME TIME, HOWEVER, RESULT OF DELIBERATIONS FURTHER STRENGTHENED IG'S EXISTENCE BY REGULARIZING PROCEDURE WHICH PROVIDES ONE MONTH TERM AND ALPHABETICAL (BY COUNTRY) SUCCESSION OF CHAIRMEN. WHILE IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT THE CHAIRMEN HAVE DUTIES BUT NO POWERS, CHAIRMEN MAY STILL, NONETHELESS, CONVOKE ADDITIONAL MEETINGS DURING THEIR TERMS AS NEEDED. IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT THAT FORMERLY A NEW CHAIRMAN WAS NOMINATED FOR EACH MEETING, REGARDLESS OF THE TIME SPAN BETWEEN THEM. NEXT MEETING WAS SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 4 UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF JAPANESE PERM REP. LUXEMBOURG WILL THEN ACCEDE TO CHAIRMANSHIP FOR MAY, AND NORWAY IN JUNE.

6. ONLY OTHER TOPIC ON AGENDA WAS MASS MEDIA. NOTHING WAS SAID WHICH WOULD ADD TO INFORMATION ALREADY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RUSH

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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